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UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 000773

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA, WHA/CCA, AND WHA/CEN
STATE FOR S/CT AND INL/LP

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PTER](#) [SNAR](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KCRM](#) [KJUS](#) [SMIG](#) [HO](#)

SUBJECT: WHERE IN THE WORLD IS LOUIS POSADA CARRILES?:
CONFLICTING PRESS REPORTS HAVE HIM IN HONDURAS AND MIAMI

1.(U) According to Honduran press March 15, 2005, Cuban Louis Posada Carriles (AKA Bambi), anti-Castro activist and alleged drug smuggler and terrorist, has been recently sighted in San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Contrary press reports in the Miami Herald on April 3 and in wire services April 11 allege that he is in Miami and plans to seek political asylum.

2.(U) Although there is no verifiable evidence of his existence in Honduras, the GOH initiated a search for Posada in August 2004 after he allegedly arrived in San Pedro Sula on a private plane from Panama. Honduran President Ricardo Maduro publicly declared at that time that he knew that Posada entered the country illegally and the GOH would search for him throughout the country until he was captured. Maduro also stated that when Posada was captured, he would be expelled from the country. It is believed that Posada entered on a false passport. The GOH investigation and search for Posada continues, although at this time, GOH authorities have not been able to find any signs of Posada and only rumors of his existence and location seem to exist. Official GOH sources could not confirm the media reports of any Posada sighting.
Palmer